

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1854

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2006

COUNSELLING CENTRES FOR INDIAN WOMEN ABROAD

Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government proposes to set up special counselling centres in various countries to extend assistance to Indian women married to expatriates as reported in The Times of India dated February 19, 2006;

(b) If so, the details in this regard;

(c) The names of the countries wherein such centres are likely to be opened; and

(d) The time by which such centres are likely to start functioning?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (d): A proposal to establish Overseas Centres is under examination in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Finance. Three centres are proposed to be opened initially, one in USA, one in Malaysia and one in the Gulf. They are expected to be established at the earliest. These centres will inter alia extend legal, medical counselling services.